Summer 1997 July - September Volume 32 No. 3

The Elongated Collectors'

TEC NEWS

... FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

This will be my last letter as president of The Elongated Collectors. Due to some medical setbacks, I won't be able to run for office again.

We have a young member, Willy Massey who has consented to run for president. I know he will do a great job!

I would like to thank all of the members and my board for all the great help they gave me during my term in office.

As you know, the TEC Annual Meeting will be in New York City this year and I have sent an application to exhibit a case of elongated coins. This will be my first attempt at exhibiting at the ANA Convention. I hope others will follow suit.

My case will have all elongates of the 1939 New York World's Fair. Ray Dillard will be exhibiting elongated coins, too. We must have at least two exhibits in order for Dottie Dow to be recognized by the ANA. We look forward to that happening!

I'll see you all in New York. Don't miss it.

Gus

Special 1997 ANA/TEC Convention Issue

Annual Meeting and Special Coin and Badge Details

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

1 '96 Convention Highlights
2 How to Sell, Part 1
3 1997 Convention Coins
4 Martin's Mutterings
5 Internet News ...and more!

July - September 1997

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 3

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Desk - Gus Meccarello	1
Editor's Notes	3
1996 Convention Highlights - Ray Dillard	4
New USF Constellation Coins - News Release	5
Hearsay from Howard - Howard Sharkey	6
1997 Convention Coin Offer	7
Nominee Statements	7
Nominee Statements	8
Martin's Mutterings - Lee Martin	10
How to Sell Elongateds, Part 1 - J. Kirby	11
TEC on the Internet	12
TEC Trading Post (Classified Ads)	14
Membership Application	15

ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Copper Memories, Inc.	6
Angros Publishers	9
Rocky Rockholt	13
C C & L Inc.	13
Angros Publishers	14

ADVERTISING RATES

As a SPECIAL incentive to our advertisers, the editor will accept ads which are not camera ready for publication in this newsletter. We will typeset and publish your ad at the following rates:

Full page:$25.00 Half page:$15.00 ¼ page:$10.00

Send your ad copy and check to the TEC Editor. Please make your check payable to T.E.C.

Classified advertising in the *TEC NEWS* "Trading Post" is free to TEC members. If possible send PC files or e-mail at wsons@aol.com.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

All advertising and articles for the Fall '97 (Oct- Dec) issue of *TEC News* are due to the Editor **no later than** Sept. 15, 1997.

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The opinions written in the articles in *TEC NEWS* are not necessarily those of the editor, or the officers of The Elongated Collectors. The editor reserves the right to edit articles as deemed necessary.

From the Editor

Boy! Time flies. This is my second convention issue already. What a joy to have served and met so many great folks. Welcome new readers. If this is your first experience with TEC, you will be pleased with our membership and the many aids to collecting elongated coins offered by TEC and its members.

You will notice a trend in this issue continuing on the theme of the Internet. Much, much information has come to me recently from our more technically interested members. I have reprinted some of the e-mail communications in this issue regarding a TEC World Wide Web Page or an electronic mail list group or notification of other Internet sites which highlight elongated coins. There is lots happening in cyberspace... trading, selling, information, fun and much more.

As editor I urge our members without a computer to find a friend or relative who is hooked up to the "Net" and have them give you a tour of the various sites. You will be amazed.

Just yesterday, I visited a site run by a man named Al Ramsey. He described, in detail, all of the Disneyworld pennies available and offered them for sale. The incredible part is his "page" listed that over 3300 people had looked up his site. That's almost ten times our membership! Like it or not, the trend is toward electronic communication. I pray that our members will be forward thinking and get on the bandwagon. Nothing will replace the printed page for quite awhile, but think of the possibility of calling the Internet and immediately interacting with an unlimited number of elongate aficionados by asking questions, performing research, offering or seeking coins or seeing scans of others' collections.

My daughter, Emily, recently received a copy of the *Centinel* , a publication produced by the "Squished Penny Museum" in Washington, D.C. The owners, Pete and Christine, just joined TEC. It is quite well done. We plan to visit them on our vacation to D.C. We also hope to hook up with Willy Massey. (We sax players are always looking to jam.)

I also received a flyer from a new elongated coin club from Virginia, $19.00 per year I recollect.

Lots is happening in the hobby. However, I was somewhat disappointed at the response to my column and classified ad last issue. Basically, I received no inquiries about the coins I offered for sale and no information on train elongates or older collections. I did hear from 2 of you about the CCE card. It was a card for members of the now defunct California Collectors of Elongateds. Either version will do. (For more information on the group or a picture of the cards, see Rosato's encyclopedia.)

I plan on putting the same communications on the Internet to see if I get more response. If I do, we will need to ask some hard questions about our newsletter.

For now, let's continue to have fun on both fronts and please continue to send those articles.

1996 Convention Highlights

By: Ray Dillard, #837

The 1996 ANA Convention was great and our coins were well-received. Most are still available and can be ordered through the TEC secretary. Since the coins featured a design with a balloon and Pike's Peak, we were asked to donate a complete set to the Aeronautical Collection for display at the United Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. This is quite an honor for TEC and our humble coin sets. We also received an official letter of acknowledgment.

There are many other notable developments from last year's convention. Here are a few:

Jack Pryor, TEC #1033, donated 1000 coins commemorating the 200th anniversary of George Washington's Farewell Address for hand-outs at our booth. Pearl Buoker, TEC #1024, donated 1000 coins in memory of Frank Brazzell. Their coins, along with TEC and ANA hand-outs, totaled 5000-6000 free coins distributed from our booth. We had to limit them to make them last the whole convention!

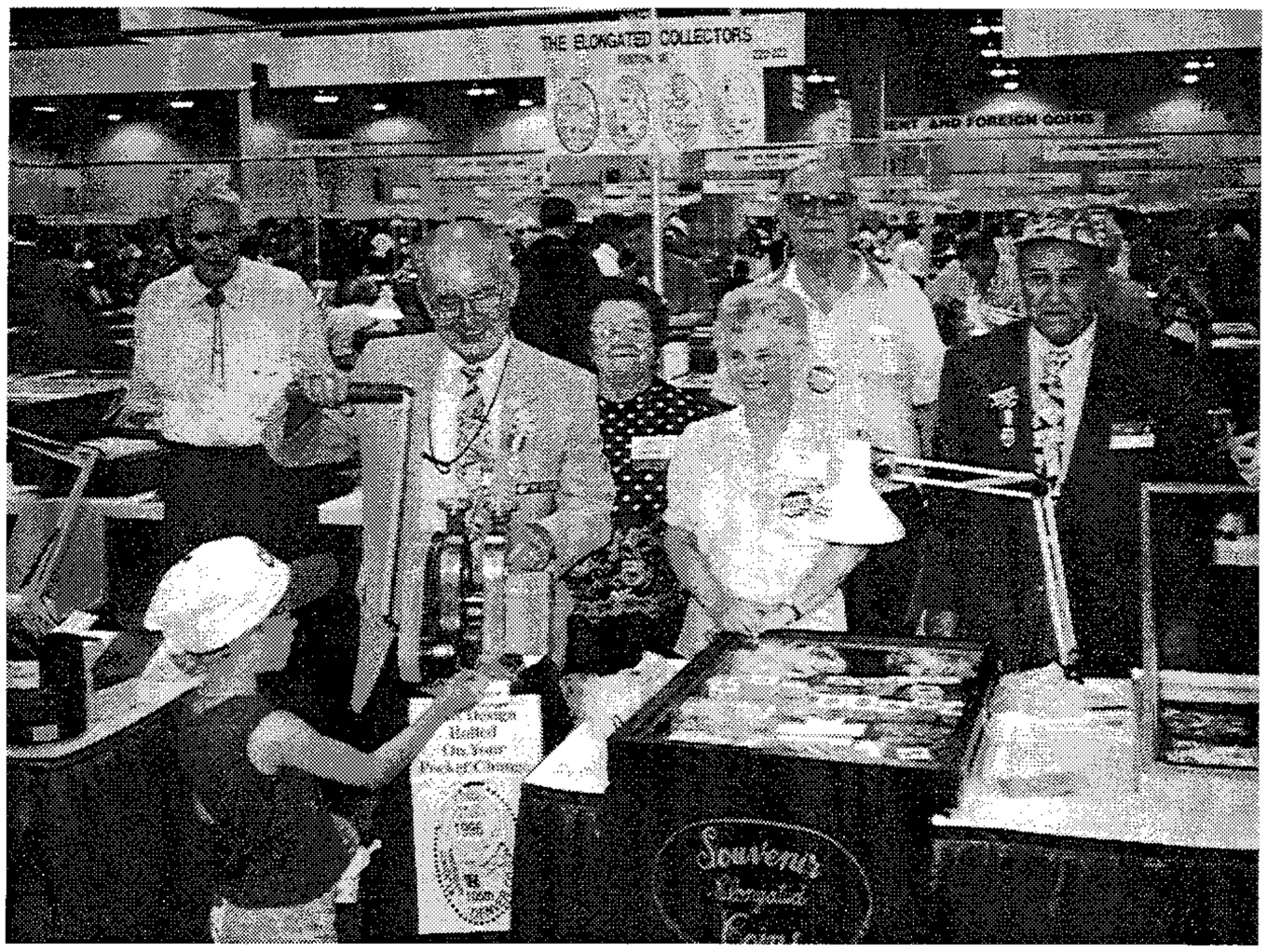
Bill Grencavich, TEC #1884 stepped in to help fill the huge void left by Frank Brazzell's passing. He is doing an outstanding job of engraving. The 1996 TEC and ANA coins show his talents.

John Wilson, TEC #1779 ANA Governor and CSNS President, had a special coin made for the convention and donated a sufficient quantity on "wheat" cents to be distributed with an issue of TEC *News*. He wanted to ensure that each TEC member received one of his special coins. Thanks to John, also a Numismatic Ambassador.

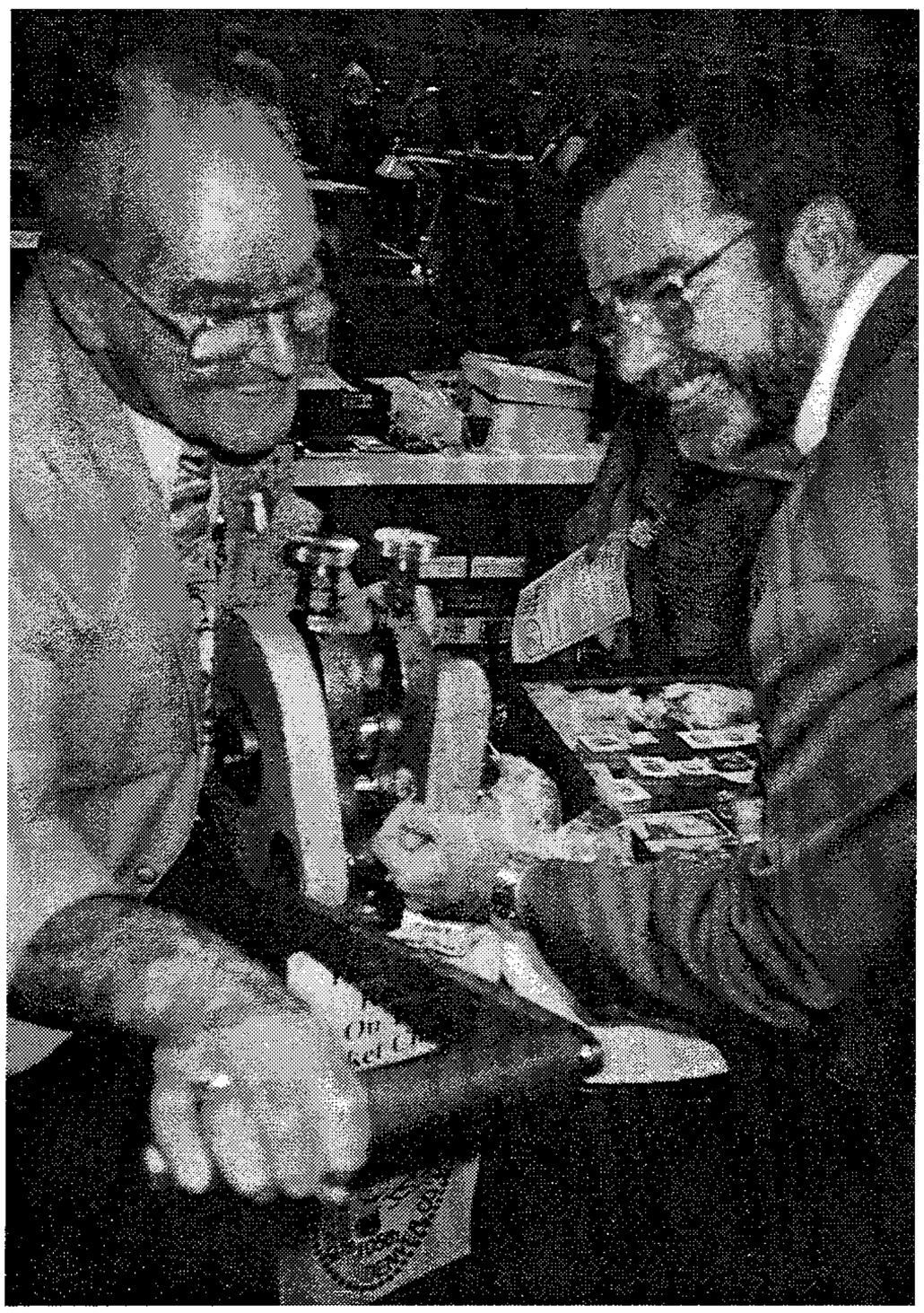
At the 1995 membership meeting in Anaheim, California, it was approved that TEC should sponsor a special ANA Exhibit Award category for elongated coins to be named "The Dottie Dow Award." TEC members and ANA Governor, John Wilson presented this proposal to the ANA Board and met with resistance. The Board contended that there has not been enough elongated coin exhi-bits to justify such a category. However, they conceded that if a true interest was demonstrated, that our proposal would be reconsidered. This is an excellent opportunity to promote our elongated coin hobby. We need participation. John has asked that we have at least two exhibits in this proposed category at this year's Convention in New York. I have promised that we will have more, but the success of our proposal depends on your participation. We need more exhibits of elongated coins to support our efforts and gain Dottie Dow her well-deserved recognition. Contact me if you plan to exhibit in New York.

The world's rarest elongated coin was displayed in its revolving display case at our booth. This coin has been featured in numismatic media articles and also in Angelo Rosato's *Encyclopedia of the Modern Elongated*. It was donated to TEC by the now-defunct "California Collectors of Elongated Coins" organization. It stirred much interesting conversation.

(continued on the next page)



TOP: Happy TEC Conventioneers. L to R: Norm Mankey, Ray Dillard, Reva Kline, Anita Zell, Howard Sharkey and Gus Meccarello. Bottom: J.T. Stanton checks out the quality of Ray Dillard's handiwork.



Editor's Note:

My deepest apologies to Ray Dillard as I print this article. He did the writing, furnished the photos, and submitted it for the Fall 1996 issue. I subsequently misplaced it while adding on to my house. Now that it's found, this article will get the exposure it deserves in the 1997 Convention issue. -- CW

New USF Constellation Coins

The Maryland State Numismatic Assn. has issued a new elongated cent to promote the 1997 Atlantic Rarities Coin Exposition.

The piece features the frigate *Constellation* in full sail with 3 dates to its port highlighting the year of Baltimore's incorporation, the year that the ship set sail and this year. 2107

The design for this year's coin is the work of TEC member, Millard Hajek, who has designed many coins over the years. Individual cents and four-piece sets will be rolled by Ray Dillard. For more information on the association, the exposition or coin sets, contact Ernie Turnes @ P.O. Box 6533, Sparrows Point , MD 21219.

Hearsay from Howard

By Howard Sharkey, TEC Secretary

This year our TEC Annual Meeting is in New York City, and as always, in conjunction with the Annual ANA Convention. Our meeting is planned for Friday, August 1st commencing with the Board of Directors meeting at 8:00 am. The regular meeting will follow at 9:00 am in the Gilbert Room.

Elongated items are now being sought to be included in our fund-raising auction. All proceeds help the TEC treasury. If you have an item to contribute, please send it to me, now.

In this our election year, all incumbents have agreed to renomination except our president, Gus Meccarello. He will not seek another term due to health concerns. William C. Massey will run in his stead.

Nominations are open until voting time at the annual meeting. All paid-up members are eligible for nomination for any office.

I received the artwork for the annual badges and both TEC and ANA coins. They are really nice this year. I am sure you will be proud to own one of these badges and TEC and ANA coin sets. For each badge or six-coin set order, I will include both of the convention handout coins. The handouts ordered alone are still $.50 each plus a $.32 stamp per order. (Not per coin.) No need to send an envelope. I have plenty of 6 x 9 envelopes for mailing. White mailing envelopes are returned to me from the Post Office so I can't use them.

Congratulations to Shirley Scott and Reva Klein, our co-winners for their designs submitted for the TEC and ANA badges and coins. A prize is on its way to each of you as a token of our appreciation.

Honorable Mention is also made to Harold Marcel, Al Bonesio (deceased), Anita Zell and Mark Mears for your suggestions of the Big Apple, skyline, Statue of Liberty, owl King Kong, Empire State Building and ribbon. Thanks to all of you for your help. Keep up the good work.

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1997 Convention Coins

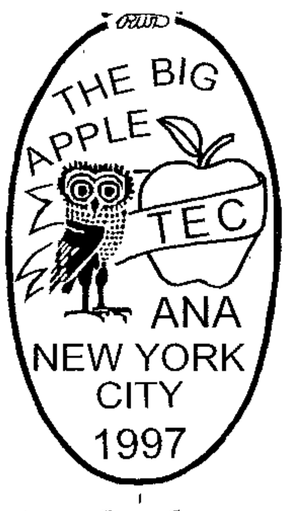
By Ray Dillard, #837

Official ANA Convention Coin

This design will be rolled on cents and handed out free at the convention in New York. It will also be rolled on customer pocket change. Plastic enclosed six-coin sets will be prepared and sold for $5.00.

TEC Handout Coin

This design will also be rolled on cents and handed out free at the convention in New York. It will also be rolled on customer pocket change. Plastic enclosed six-coin sets will be prepared and sold for $5.00.



TEC Badges

The elongated convention badges will be rolled in two versions: Clad quarters with attached ribbon and pin selling for $5.00; and Enameled silver quarters with attached ribbon and pin selling for $25.00. (Note: Multiple items may be ordered, but please add $1.00 for postage on all mail orders. Please place orders with Howard Sharkey, TEC Secretary.

1997 Merit Award Coin

This design will be rolled on silver quarters. It is not for sale. It is awarded to those who in the opinion of the President and Board of Directors have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of the hobby of elongated coins during 1996-7.

1997 TEC News Award Coin

This design will be rolled on nickels. It is not for sale, but will be awarded by the Editor to those whose articles were published in *TEC News* during 1997.

Nominee Comments

I have been actively involved with the affairs of TEC for the last 16 years, serving as Secretary, Vice President and President. If it is the desire of the membership, I will be glad to serve as Vice President for another two-year term.

Sincerely,

Ray Dillard, Candidate for Vice President

Nominee Comments:

I would love to serve another term as your treasurer. I'm enjoying the "work." It's really no work at all and takes very little of my time. I've been active in TEC for over four years now. I've given programs to both the coin clubs in Las Vegas about the history of elongateds; exhibited at several coin shows; written at least one article each year for the *TEC News*; and helped a few new members get started via my Penny Pen Pals group.

So far, I've managed to keep the numbers in the check book, journal, and bank statements all the same. I hope the above qualifies me to remain as your treasurer.

Sincerely,
Anita Zell, Candidate for Treasurer

☺ ☺ ☺

I am honored by my nomination for the next TEC presidency. For those of you who I have yet to come in contact with, please allow me to introduce myself.

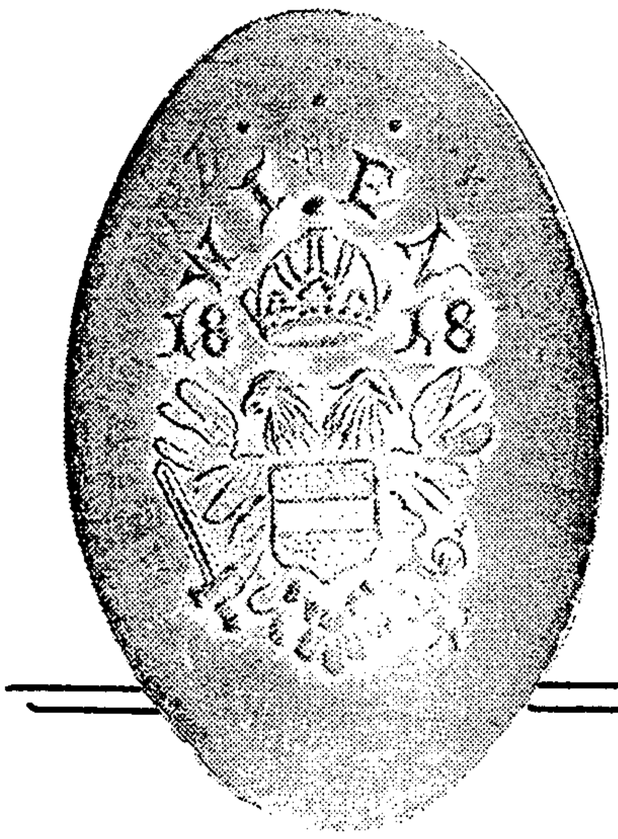
Most of my friends call me "Willy." I received my first elongated as a free hand-out at a Baltimore coin show in the early nineties. While very intrigued by the oddity, my obsession with elongated coins did not surface until about two months later, (when I received my second elon-gated specimen). Shortly thereafter, I met Raymond W. Dillard while he was rolling elongateds for the 1993 ANA Convention. It was then that I knew I had to roll coins. In fact, I remember telling Ray that I would own a machine by the next TEC Annual meeting. The next thing I knew, I was driving half-way across the country to Terre Haute, Indiana to purchase a hand-cranked rolling machine made in 1993 from another fine TEC member I had met at the 1993 TEC meeting – the late, great Frank Brazzell.

I am now 35 years of age. I have a small business producing, buying, selling and trading elongated coins (Luck "E" Penny). Not a day goes by where I am not actively promoting TEC and/or elongated coins on some level – on the Internet; placing ads in the *Numismatic News*; personally handing out elongated coins; giving formal presen-tations or just leaving one in the change slot of a pay-phone or soda machine. Thankfully, my efforts have resulted in dozens of new TEC members.

I am also the Vice President of the Montgomery County Coin Club in my home state of Maryland (yes, I collect un-squished money, too).. I have recently earned a B. S. in Business Management from the University of Maryland, College Park. I play the tenor saxophone on a professional level and keep tropical fish for fun and relaxation.

If elected as your next TEC president, I would continue to promote TEC in every way possible. In addition to vowing my devotion toward systematically meeting the challenges of TEC's current agenda, I would also create a special task-force to see to it that TEC has its proper representation on the Internet.

Sincerely,
William Massey, Candidate for President



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS ELONGATED! - WILL PAY

$ 5000

for "WEIN 1818 elongated coin in any condition. Listed as "NPL-212" in Rosato's *"Encyclopedia of the Modern Elongated."* Will pay $500 to person with information leading to ultimate purchase. Write to Angros Enterprises 70 Grove St., New Milford, CT 06776

Send $5.00 for historic researched information on this elongated coin. . .

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MODERN "CLASSIC" ELONGATEDS

--- WANTED ---

WILL PAY no less than $75 and up to $150 each
(as listed in Rosato's 'encyclopedia')

DOW-79	BRO-3	COO-1	HOE-5	JAC-24	JOB-25
ADA-48	JON-74	MAC-19	PON-2	ROS-44	MIS-8
SAB-5	WAG-16	DOW-253	ADA-50	JAC-4	JOB-60
HOE-2	DOW-259	PON-4	MAC-23	ROS-148	WAG-27
ADA-49	HOE-4	ROS-171	WAG-112	JON-113	BRO-5
WAG- 159	ROS-157	PON-23	RAB-8	SAB-8	ROS-175
JOB-61	BRO-9	WAG-59	SAB-12	ADA-56	WAG-141
HOE-3	WAG-108	SAB-19	ROS-283	WAG-129	SAB-6

Write to ANGROS ENTERPRISES 70 Grove St., New Milford. CT 06776

MARTIN's MUTTERINGS

by Lee Martin

The free elongated that accompanies the TEC newsletter is a very welcome gesture from rollers. It is hoped that members will reciprocate by buying from those dealers who donate. The super coins from Rocky Rockholt display prehistoric animals with names that I can't pronounce, (nor spell) but the quality is so high that I rate his issues among the best in the hobby. Other rollers also do very well so it is impossible to point a finger and say who is number one but one thing is certain. The coins of today's rollers are superior to the coins of yesteryear. Few of us who used acids to make dies ever retouched the dies and that is the primary difference. Post production is a term used by video makers to describe work, editing, special effects, etc. and the term surely applies to retouched dies. (Dies made by engraving rarely require additional work.)

Recently I gave up using the Internet and e-mail. The reasons are multiple. Residing in a small town meant that every time I used the phone number, it was a toll charge. Bills were in the hundreds of dollars and aggravating the situation were stacks of "Get rich quick" schemers who flooded my e-mail address. So it is goodbye e-mail, even though I like sending messages on it. The Web contact area has become a major coin dealer source but so far no one advertises elongateds. (I may be wrong.)

Rarity is an elusive term usually describing low mintage material. Recently I asked anyone who colored their elongateds to send a sample and I would award a prize to the best one. UNIQUE is a term meaning one of a kind and ZILCH meaning zero. So far the number of entrants are ZILCH. Either no one is coloring their coins or they are not satisfied with the results. Colored elongateds can add profit to dealers, create new hobbyists and convert the common to uncommon. Try coloring...it can be fun.

Howard Sharkey is our Secretary and merits accolades for being on the ball. The name Sharkey brings back memories of a great heavyweight fighter. Sailor Jack Sharkey was a good one so just in case Howard is a relative I will never argue with him.

The ad in our newsletter asking for prime locations to place an elongated machine and the willingness to pay for the location points to one of the real genius's in the hobby. The advertiser makes machines that are automatic and promote interest in our hobby by introducing souvenirs to potential TEC members.

Our editor mentioned "squished pennies" and I remember placing Lincolns on the street car tracks in Atlantic City (where I was reared.) We called them squashed pennies. Now it is elongateds, stretched coins and flattened cents. But they all add up to a wonderful inexpensive hobby. Incidentally, it is one of the few hobbies where new designs on U.S. coins appear by the hundreds. Best of all is the latitude where almost all denominations are represented. (Not the new issues as yet, but rollers are ingenious.) Hobo nickels are also an area with new designs on U. S. coins. The Indian portrait on the obsolete five cent piece is transformed into hobo portraits and other creative oddities.

Once again a very large THANK YOU to editor Corey Wylde for a superior issue. You can help by submitting articles...payment is usually a special elongated as recognition.

How to Sell Elongateds -Part 1

By Jess Kirby, #1813

PACKAGING, PACKAGING! That is the first step in offering elongated coins for sale. A good looking package coupled with a group of interested buyers is a sure bet for success.

Use the 2 x 2's that TEC offers for displaying each coin. The unique shape of the rolled coin makes a nice visual attraction. Print clearly! I use blue and red felt-tip pens. Red is for emphasis, but price the coin in blue. It's more subdued. Do not employ cursive writing. Many collectors are older and their eyes have changed. This helps them. When writing, keep it small, legible and simple.

Make certain that the staples used to enclose the 2 x 2's are straight and squeezed tightly against the reverse side with pliers. This keeps potential customers from snagging their hand or fingernail on a staple. Women especially appreciate this. Place the staples close to the die-cut window leaving more room for writing your description. Undulated staples detract from the coin and your message. Stick with straight ones.

In addition to excellent prices on quality 2 x 2's, TEC offers nice 20-pocket sheets. Buy them for your collections, and for displaying elongates for sale. Show your own collection as a sales tool and encourage others about the interesting specimens they can collect.

Point out the uniqueness of designs like the TEC Owl, Frank Brazzell's "Rose Hat," Pearl Buoker's "Mrs. Claus, and of course, J. Kirby's Viking Penny. Share with them the fun of collecting elongates.

Contact people at church and Sunday school. Tell them about the Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments and the 23rd Psalm elongated coins. You might become like the Apostle Paul in the Bible wanted us to be – people who spread the Word. Elongates are a good motivation for some people to attend church or Sunday school regularly. You never know when an elongate may draw someone back years after they received it.

Coins for holidays make excellent sellers. The Pledge of Allegiance is a great coin for the Fourth of July. I've sold 10 to a family or 110 to 1000's to larger groups.

Groups and clubs offer fertile selling ground to the shrewd elongate marketer. Masonic lodges have the potential to purchase quantities of various designs. Bingo halls are a golden opportunity to sell Lucky Bingo pennies as giveaways to 400-500 players on a special night. The halls are always looking for inexpensive freebies to entice and swell the crowd. A local Boy Scout troop is a great place to sell some Scout coins and recruit additional TEC jr. Members. Almost forgotten is the Serenity Prayer elongate. Many recovering alcoholics find solace and relief in this prayer. Their spouses, friends, relatives and they, themselves will often buy this penny.

Collectibles events or movie promotions are excellent for selling coins depicting the interests of attendees. A hundred cents like this may be sold easily. So remember, PACKAGING, PACKAGING!

TEC on the Internet

By: Peter Johnson, #2065

I believe an online presence will greatly help TEC, enhancing its visibility and attracting new members. I belong to an organization called The SubCommittee, a group of submarine modelers. Since going online, the group has flourished, growing much faster than at any time before.

Here are some suggestions for a web page:

1. Include a sample issue of TEC News. This would allow prospective members to see what they'll get.

2. Have a secure form for becoming a member, including payment via credit card and electronic cash. We computer types are impatient and lazy (at least I am!), and while I'll sign up on line for something, if I have to get offline and write a letter, I may not bother. From a marketing perspective, you have to get the "impulse buyer" while he/she has the impulse!

3. Include the complete TEC charter and bylaws. The more info the prospective member has, the more likely they are to join.

4. Have a message board. This will allow prospective members to ask questions of current members and TEC executives. It also lets people post For Sale and Want To Buy notices, compare collections, etc.

5. Include links to other coin sites, including internet newsgroups.

6. Post images of coins. For instance, I'm curious about the enameled badge that Howard Sharkey mentions in his column. I collect cloisonne pins, so it may fit into that collection, but I really don't know until I see it.

7. It's very important to update and change the site's contents frequently! In the information age, a site that hasn't been updated for 2 or 3 months (many would say weeks) is very easy to forget or ignore. The content must be kept "fresh" to keep attracting interest.

8. Keep a membership list online. The thorny issue here is what info to include, and whether to exclude members who don't want to be listed. I'm sure almost all members who go online would want at least their e-mail addresses listed.

9. Get the entire group of TEC officers online. (Yup, easier said than done!) That way members (and prospectives) can voice questions & issues to the correct person.

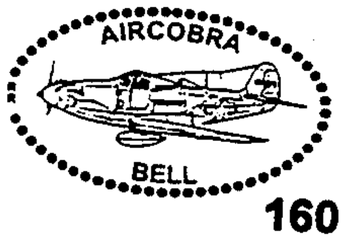
You might want to check out the SubCommittee's site at http://www.wolfsong.com/SubCommittee/. It's a good example of a small special interest group maintaining a successful website.

I didn't help set up SubCommittee, so this isn't a plug for me. However, I am by profession an information management consultant, so I have considerable experience with these issues.

Hope this is helpful to you. Please feel free to contact me for any assistance you need.

WORLD WAR II AIRPLANES

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AIRPLANE AS AN OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE WEAPON IN WORLD WAR II CAN NEVER BE UNDERSTATED. THE 20 DIFFERENT FIGHTER AND BOMBER AIRPLANES IN THIS SERIES PLAYED TREMENDOUS PARTS IN THAT WAR. THEY WERE THE FORERUNNERS OF THE GREAT FLEET OF AIRPLANES THAT THE WORLD ENJOYS TODAY. AVAILABLE INDIVIDUALLY OR IN SETS OF 20 AT THE SAME PRICES AS DINOSAURS.



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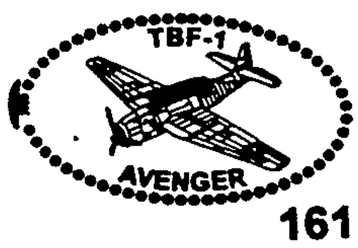

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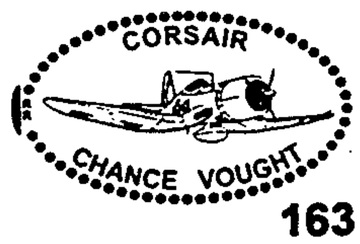

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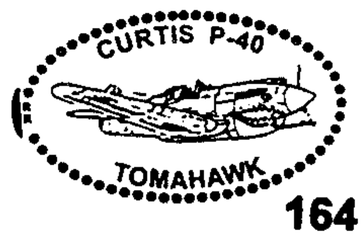

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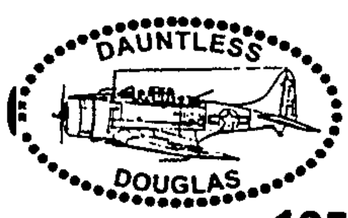

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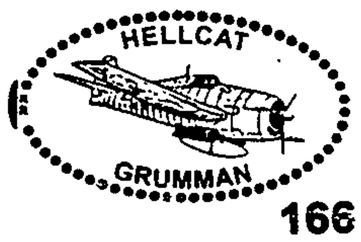

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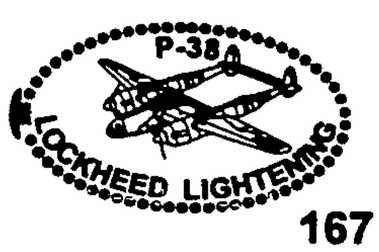

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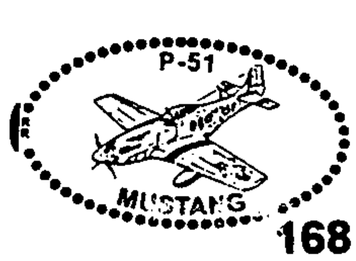

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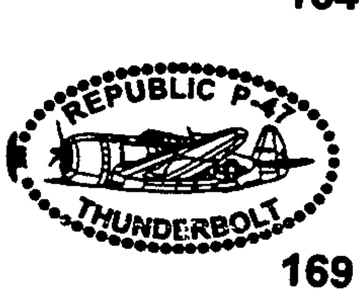

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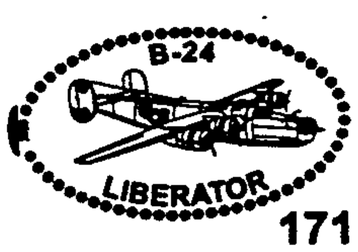

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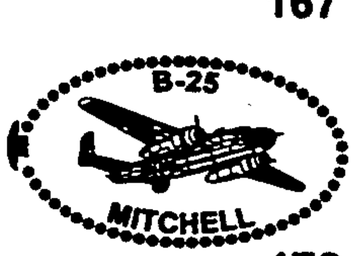

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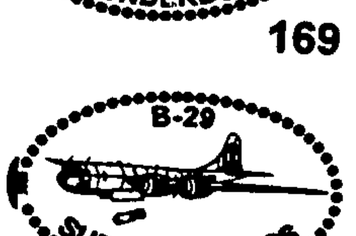

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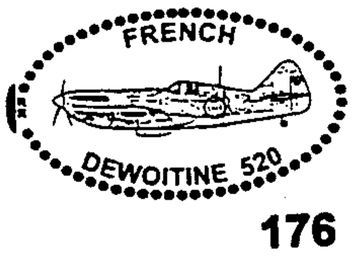

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178

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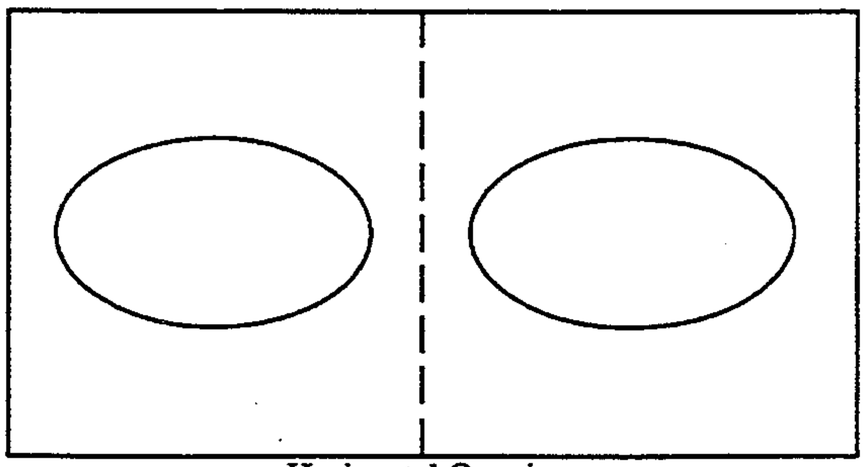

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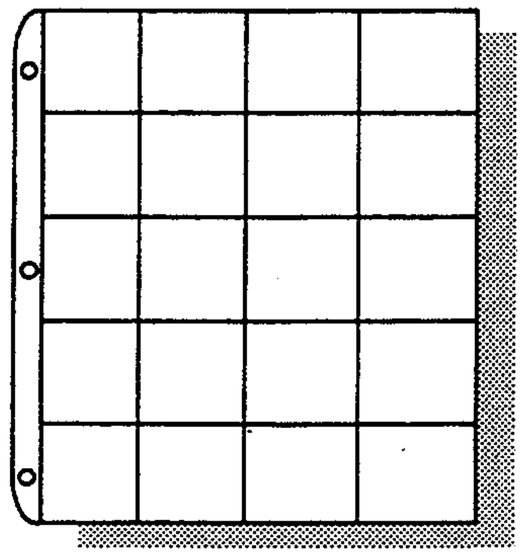

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